



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Edn

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/261,017	03/02/1999	HEIKKI KOKKINEN	915.333	7220
4955	7590	06/28/2005	EXAMINER	
WARE FRESSOLA VAN DER SLUYS & ADOLPHSON, LLP BRADFORD GREEN BUILDING 5 755 MAIN STREET, P O BOX 224 MONROE, CT 06468			BOAKYE, ALEXANDER O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2667	

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/261,017

Applicant(s)

KOKKINEN, HEIKKI

Examiner

ALEXANDER BOAKYE

Art Unit

2667

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 March 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8,10 and 11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sawyer et al. (US Patent # 6,058,115).

Regarding claim 9, Sawyer teaches communication system (Fig. 3), comprising a signaling unit and a network interface (column 4, lines 44-45; the claimed signaling unit reads on DSP 72 of Fig. 3 and the claimed network interface corresponds to PCM interface of Fig. 3 blocks 87 and 87 respectively), characterized in that it is equipped so as to use in a signaling connection with a central unit of a communication system (the central unit is inherent in the PSTN block 91 of Fig. 3) at least one signaling protocol, to which end it comprises means for indicating to the central unit, in response to a message sent by the central unit, the capability of the terminal of supporting a particular signaling protocol (column 7, lines 26-30) , and establishing via a network interface in the terminal a signaling connection between a signaling unit in the terminal and the central unit, using a signaling protocol supported by the terminal (column 7, lines 26-36).

Regarding claim 11, Sawyer discloses that the signaling connection is between the central unit and the terminal (column 5, lines 49-54; the central unit is inherent in the PSTN block 91 of Fig. 3).

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 3, 4-11, 6-8 are allowable.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: As to claims 1, 3-5, the prior art of record does not teach a message (201) is sent from the central unit's network interface (107) to the terminal, indicating the signaling protocols supported by the central unit, in response to an answer message (202) sent by the terminal indicating the terminal's selection for signaling protocol, a connection is established (203, 204) between the central unit's network interface(107) and the central unit's signaling unit (105) that supports the signaling protocol chosen by the terminal.

As to claims 6 and 7, the prior art of record does not teach in response to a message (201) sent by the central unit's network interface (107) indicating the signaling protocols supported by the central unit, an answer message (202) is sent from the terminal's interface (109) indicating the signaling protocol selected by the terminal when the terminal supports a signaling protocol mentioned in the message, or the incapability of the terminal of supporting a protocol indicated in the message when the terminal does not support any one of the signaling protocols mentioned in the message.

As to 8, the prior art of record does not teach a signaling unit selected by the central unit, the central unit being adapted to select a signaling unit after having received the indication from the terminal.

As to claims 10 and 11, the prior art of record does not teach in the central unit, means for indicating to the terminal the signaling protocols supported by the central unit and means for setting up via the central unit's network interface a signaling connection using a selected signaling protocol between the central unit's signaling unit and the terminals, and in the terminal, means for indicating to the central unit the capability of the terminal of supporting a particular signaling protocol in response to a message sent by the central unit. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 03/23/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

A) At page 7, in claim 9, the applicant argued that Sawyer does not teach "signaling unit", "signaling protocol", "supporting a particular signaling protocol", and "signaling connection" as claimed in claim 9.

B) In response, the examiner maintains that Sawyer discloses signaling unit (DSP of Fig. 3 is a signaling unit), signaling protocol (column 7, lines 26-36; see P1, P2, P3 of Fig. 3), supporting a particular signaling protocol (70 and 71 of Fig. 3 support a particular signaling protocol), and signaling connection (a signal originating from originating subscriber unit 32 and destined from terminating subscriber unit 36 travels along path 81 which represents signaling connection).

C) At page 7, the applicant argued that Sawyer does not describe communications between a central unit and a terminal, but instead describes communications between two terminals through a network.

D) In response, the examiner maintained that Sawyer describes communications between a central unit and a terminal (the central unit is contained at the PSTN block 91 of Fig. 3 and the terminal is 36 of Fig. 3).

4. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 2667

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion


5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Boakye whose telephone number is (571) 272-3183. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham, can be reached on (571) 272-3179. The fax number (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application of proceeding should be directed to the Electronic Business Center numbers 866-217-9197 and 703-305-3028.

Alexander Boakye

Patent Examiner

^{AB}
06/24/05


CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2667 6/27/05